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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Yoshihiko HIBINO et al. :
Serial No. 09/673,567 : Group Art Unit: 1774
Filed: October 18, 2000 : Examiner: P. R. Schwartz
For: INK JET RECORDING :
PAPER :

D E C L A R A T I O N

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Koji IDEI, declare that I am one of the co-inventors of the above-identified application and familiar with the prosecution history of the application.

I declare that I have read and understand the Official Action dated September 25, 2003, issued against the above-identified application.

I declare as follows:

The fixing agent SC-600G2, which is manufactured by Hymo Co., Ltd. of Japan and cited in the specification of the above-identified application, was available for purchase from Hymo Co., Ltd. as of October

18, 2000, the date on which the application was filed.

The undersigned declarant declares further that all statements made herein of own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signed this 7 day of January , 2004.

Koji Idei
Koji IDEI